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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/585,890	07/12/2006	Jane E. Tateson	36-1994	7657

23117 7590 12/07/2010
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

EXAMINER

KUNDU, SUJOY K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2857

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/07/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/585,890	Applicant(s) TATESON, JANE E.	
	Examiner SUJOY K. KUNDU	Art Unit 2857	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09/20/2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4-10, 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carlson (US 2002/0163912 A1).

With regards to Claim 1, 10, Carlson teaches a sensor device having means for periodically generating a measured value of a property (Paragraph 43, 50),

comprising means for determining the rate of change in the measured property (Paragraph 44, 51, 56) and

means for determining the values of the property being measured by devices similar to said sensor device (Paragraph 45), and

means for adjusting the periodicity of measurement according to these values it has measured and the values it has received from one or more other devices (Paragraph 46 and 47).

With regards to Claim 2, 11, Carlson teaches further comprising: means for increasing the frequency with which measurements are taken when the property is being measured is changing (Paragraph 46, “count”)

With regards to Claim 4, 13, Carlson teaches a sensor device wherein the device has means for determining the values being measure by neighbouring devices (nodes) and means for controlling the device to reduce the frequency at which measurements are taken if neighbouring devices are obtaining the same values for the measurements (Paragraph 50).

With regards to Claim 5, Carlson teaches a sensor device, comprising a transmitter to broadcast the measurements being taken by the device and a receiver to receive such broadcasts from the devices similar to said devices (Paragraph 65).

With regards to Claim 6, 14, Carlson teaches a sensor comprising means for exchanging data with neighbouring devices for the purpose of relaying it to a data collection point (Figure 4, Paragraph 54-56) the data generated by the device or received from others being stored in a buffer until it can be transmitted (Paragraph 41, 57).

With regards to Claim 7, 15, Carlson teaches a sensor device, the means for adjusting the periodicity of measurement being responsive to the level of such traffic ("travel") being handled by the device (Paragraph 68).

With regards to Claim 8, 16, Carlson teaches a sensor device, having means for determining the level of data traffic being carried by one or more neighbouring devices (Paragraph 68), means for comparing the traffic levels carried by the neighbouring devices with the traffic it is itself carrying (Paragraph 68), and means for transmitting control data to other devices if it is carrying less that other devices, and means for receiving such control data from devices identified as carrying less traffic that it is, the

Art Unit: 2857

control data having the effect of adjusting the times at which the measurements are taken by the device receiving the control data (Paragraph 67-74).

With regards to Claim 9, 17, Carlson teaches a sensor device, wherein the control data generated by the transmitting device controls the receiving device to reduce its data measurement rate ("depth count," Paragraph 82).

With regards to Claim 18, Carlson teaches wherein the controlling device causes the devices under its control to stagger the times at which they take measurements (Paragraph 68).

With regards to Claim 19 and 20, Carlson teaches wherein each of the sensor device and the devices similar to said sensor device is a mobile device (Paragraph 4 and 21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 12, 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlson (US 2002/0163912 A1).

With regards to Claim 3, 12, Carlson is silent with regards to the limitation of a sensor device comprising means for calculating the standard deviation of a predetermined number of preceding readings.

Art Unit: 2857

Although Carlson fails to teach this limitation, the use of such a well known statistical analysis would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill. Specifically, absent a showing of criticality, the use of any well known statistically analysis, such as standard deviation, to process data into a useful form would have been obvious to an artisan to enable a user to make usefully meaning out of a large amount of data to determine the values of the property being measured.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUJOY K. KUNDU whose telephone number is (571)272-8586. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Schechter can be reached on 571-272-2302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2857

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sujoy K Kundu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2857
December 2, 2010